





Applicants: Mark Ritchart et. al.

Serial No.: 09/734,787 Art Unit:

3731

Filed

06/17/02

December 12, 2000

Examiner:

M. Hindenberg

For

Method and Apparatus for Automated Biopsy and Collection of Soft Tissue

Hon. Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

> I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on June 17, 2002 (Date of Deposit) Gerry Gressel Name of parson signing the Certificate June 17, 2002 (Date of Signature) (Signature)

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT MAILED MAY 15, 2002

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Restriction Requirement/Election of Species dated as mailed May 15, 2002 by the USPTO.

Applicant elects Species II, including Claims 11-22, with Traverse.

It is respectfully urged that consideration of all species disclosed in the application will conserve USPTO resources and result in a more effective and comprehensive search by the USPTO. Accordingly, it is requested that this requirement be withdrawn.

**P**03

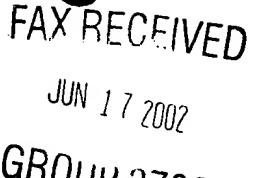


The Examiner is requested to reconsider all the pending claims in light of the Remarks above, and to allow the claims in the next office action.

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for the Applicants

Johnson & Johnson One Johnson & Johnson Plaza New Brunswick, NJ 08933-7003 (513) 337-3535 Dated June 17, 2002:



Gerry S. Gressel (513) 337-3535 Ethicon Endo-Surgery, Inc. 4545 Creek Road Cincinnati OH 45242

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TO:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

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Examise Max Hindenburg

From: Gerry Gressel

We are transmitting a total of 3 Page(s) INCLUDING this cover letter.

Date:

Dear Sir:

I certify the following correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on June 17, 2002.

Gerry Gressel Reg. No. 34,342

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